Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: May I know whether any permit was issued?

Mr. A. S. Damodaran Asan: On certain applications from the Cochin State, a few permits were issued.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: May I know the aggregate quantity of tapioca chips that were exported with these permits?

Mr. A. S. Damodaran Asan: I claim notice.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi (*Karunagapally, Karthikapally and Ambalapuzha* cum *Shertallai*): May I know whether there has not been a recommendation by the Economic Development Board asking for the total prohibition of the export of tapioca from this State?

Mr. A. S. Damodaran Asan: Yes, Sir.

President: There has been total prohibition of the export of tapioca from this State except to this extent. The Cochin State has not until recently grown tapioca but were in the habit of importing tapioca from this State. They made representations that to close completely all avenues of obtaining tapioca would be a great hardship to them. Having regard to the very close relationship in which we stand with the Cochin State, and the friendliness that has been displayed in the matter of procurement and distribution of food supplies between the Cochin State and the Travancore State, the Travancore Government made up its mind to make a kind of average for the last two or three years and allow so much of tapioca to go to the Cochin State. Only permits to that extent are issued to merchants acting on the direct and personal responsibility of the Head of the Cochin Administration. No other export permits are issued.

TRANSPORT OF FOOD GRAINS IN PRIVATE LORRIES.

President: I think honourable members might be made aware of this, that having regard to the present food situation, and in addition to the other measures that Government have had to employ, it has come to the notice of the Government that private lorries are being extensively used for the purpose of transport of food grains either clandestinely or otherwise and that thereby the food control scheme is not having its full operation. They, therefore, propose—they have not issued the orders so far—with a view effectively to prevent the unauthorised transport of food grains by private lorries, to issue the necessary orders prohibiting the transport of food grains by private lorries except such as may be moved on behalf of or by the Government. Any violation of this rule will mean the confiscation of the lorries together with the food-grains conveyed.

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